FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DETAILS RELEASED ON MISSION TO VATICAN FOR BEAGLE MEDIATION

PY021732 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 1 Apr 79 p 1, 12 PY

[Excerpts] The national government has named Foreign Ministry legal adviser Ambassador Guillermo R. Moncayo and member of the Supreme Court Pedro Jose Frias, who will act as consultant, to head the mission which will submit to Pope John Paul II all the background data regarding the dispute which our country has with Chile in the southern area. Argentine Ambassador to the Vatican Ruben Blanco will join them in Rome. The information was released yesterday in a communique which was distributed by the Foreign Ministry. The communique does not give the mission's date of departure, but it is believed that it will be about the middle of the week. In this first stage of the pope's mediation, the official delegation will have the collaboration of other officials such as Brig Gen Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, president of the Argentine delegation of Joint Commission No 2, and Susana Ruiz Cerrutti and Hortensia Gutierrez Posse, who actively participated in the various stages of the negotiations with Chile. These officials were to have traveled yesterday, but due to technical delays of the Aerolineas Argentinas flights, departure will take place this morning.

Ambassador to Vatican Comments

PY021735 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1228 GMT 2 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NA)--Argentine Ambassador to the Vatican Ruben Blanco said this morning from Rome that he will collaborate "with great pleasure" with the Argentine delegation which will inform the Vatican about our country's position regarding the border conflict with Chile. During an interview broadcast this morning by a metropolitan radio station, Blanco remarked that "the members of the delegation arrived early this morning and at the moment they are resting. So far they have not carried out any activity." He then termed the Argentine mission as an "advance guard" and said that regarding the contacts with the Vatican, it will be these officials who will release the information. Blanco did not want to risk any forecasts about the duration of the preparatory tasks prior to the mediation and he remarked that "it is the Vatican who has the initiative in this matter."

LABOR MINISTRY WARNS TEXTILE WORKERS TO END STRIKE

PY030001 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2255 GMT 2 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Mar (NA)--The Labor Ministry warned the personnel of the Barracas plant of the Alpargatas Enterprise, which went on strike last Friday, to go back to work and reminded them that the law on security, No 21,400, includes imprisonment for strikers. The demand was made during a meeting held in the Labor Ministry with the participation of representatives of the internal commission of the factory, executives of Alpargatas S.A., the interventor of the Textile Workers Association and the director of labor relations.

Warning Rejected; Strike Continues

PY030002 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2311 GMT 2 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NA)--Personnel of the Alpargatas Enterprise Inc. rejected the warning made this afternoon by the Labor Ministry and decided to carry on the strike they started last Friday to demand a wage increase. This decision, which was made in an assembly held tonight by personnel of the factory, was reported to the directors of the enterprise.

FOREIGN MINISTER VOICES WILLINGNESS FOR PARANA DIALOG

PY311755 Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 31 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Brazil is ready and open for dialog and is willing to find a formula which is satisfactory for all parties who wish to coordinate the Corpus and Itaipu dams. This statement has been made by the Brazilian foreign minister in an interview granted to the Buenos Aires news agency SAPORITI. Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro said that it is the wish of the government to reach an agreement shortly which satisfies the interests of Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina. The foreign minister further stated that Argentine-Brazilian relations are an element of great importance for the actions and international coexistence of the two countries.

LABOR MINISTER ALLAYS FEARS OF STEELWORKER DISMISSALS

PY301415 Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpt] Regarding the Sao Paulo steelworkers, the problem of the dismissal of workers who participated in the strike movement continues. The problem even prompted the visit to Sao Paulo yesterday of Labor Minister Murilo Macedo to hold a meeting with the so-called Group of 14, comprised of employers and the delegate of the Sao Paulo regional labor central, Vinicius Ferraz Torres. It was learned at the end of the meeting that a promise was made: No company is going to dismiss any metallurgical worker. Reporter (Vera Lucia), who was present at the meeting last night, is now talking with the minister. [Begin (Vera Lucia) relayed interview with Minister Macedo] Last night the labor minister held a 3-hour meeting with businessmen of the Group of 14. At the end of the meeting, he agreed to talk with the press. Minister, what has been decided at the meeting held last night?

[Macedo] Listen, it was a very pleasant meeting in the home of a friend during which we discussed several subjects. I especially tried to express the government's concern over the problem of the dismissal of some strikers. I have had the satisfaction to hear from all the businessmen that dismissed workers who participated in the strike will be reinstated and that in the event some of the workers do not want to return to their own company, other companies expressed their disposition toward reinstating them either in their companies or in other companies.

[(Vera Lucia)] Minister, will there be more dismissals of workers as a consequence of the strike?

[Macedo] No, all the businessmen have promised that there will be no more dismissals. [end of relay]

MDB TO BOYCOTT NEW HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

PY311416 Paris AFP in Spanish 0456 GMT 31 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 30 Mar (AFP)--The Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB), the only legal opposition party in the country, will not take part in the Human Rights Defense Council (CDDPH) if this organization is not radically modified, it was announced here today. This announcement was made by the MDB president himself, Ulysses Guimaraes, who stated that the MDB leaders will not participate in an organization which will be subordinate to the government. The decision to reactivate the CDDPH was made by Justice Minister Petronio Portella, who announced that the first meeting of the organization will be held in April, without changing either the composition or the nature of the sessions.

PRESIDENT DENIES CHARGES BY HUMAN RIGHTS MEETING

PA021512 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0405 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Manizales, Colombia, 1 Apr (LATIN)--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala today described the organizers of a congress on human rights held in Bogota this week as "enemies of the government." The president spoke to local leaders here during a tour of this region to inaugurate public works projects.

The congress on human rights, organized by the Habeas Corpus Foundation created by novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez, was held in Bogota on Friday and Saturday. During the meeting, papers were presented indicating that freedom of the press is restricted in the country and military authorities have tortured suspected guerrillas who have been arrested. These charges have been denied following investigations by the attorney general's office, which maintains that the tortures have not occurred.

The president said the participants in the forum tried to favor those charged with very serious crimes such as kidnaping and assassination. Regarding this, Turbay Ayala said: It is evident that since the congress of the republic contains no organized opposition force, a congress has been convened by the government's enemies so that some persons can fight against the great struggle for the country's pacification.

There is freedom in excess here--all the freedom one might want to criticize the government, and not only to criticize it but to exaggerate, to accuse it of actions it has not committed and to try to confuse the campaigns, the president added. He indicated that while his government is struggling against insecurity, there are people abroad who believe that we violate human rights because we do not surround with guarantees those who commit crimes that shame the republic.

I do not know in the name of what international convention or what extraconventional idea one can charge that those who commit atrocities are the least-favored criminals or can achieve the mobilization of the people in favor of those persons who have endangered society, he said. We have a clear conscience because we are not violating anyone's legitimate rights, we are not stepping beyond the bounds of the constitution and the law, we are respectful of the rights that emanate not only from our constitutional mandate but from our own conscience as democrats, from our Christian upbringing, from our behavior throughout all our life in the course of national events, Turbay Ayala added.

CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT GOVERNMENT'S PEACE MEASURES

PA291457 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The Conservative Party [PC] National Directorate, headed by Felio Andrade Manrique, has renewed its support for the person and the government work of President Turbay and has voiced solidarity with the security statute and all the steps taken by the government to guarantee peace, democratic institutions and human rights. The PC executive board notes that only a climate of peace and coexistence and effective democratic institutions can pave the way for the government's quest for higher social and economic goals. It observes with satisfaction the successful moves toward recovery of a climate of peace while at the same time preserving the citizens' constitutional rights.

The board also notes that overcoming serious social difficulties and achieving necessary management-labor understanding will not be possible unless government offers the citizens peaceful enjoyment of freedoms, with government-directed dialog among the various segments of the community becoming the main axis of social policy. Concluding, the directorate reiterates its decision to continue to offer congressional bloc support for government or parliamentary initiatives inspired in the nation's general welfare.

The statement is signed by Felio Andrade Manrique, president; Guillermo Velez Urreta, vice president; Jorge Uribe Botero, secretary general of the party; and Roberto Camacho, secretary of the directorate.

Protection Plea

PA301230 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The National Directorate of the Conservative Party has denounced the assassination of 16 Conservatives in Cauca. This was done through a message to former President Pastrana, who was asked to appeal to the chief of state for protection. The Conservative leadership noted that Alderman Marco Aurelio Ordonez and four other officials were killed on Sunday, 18 March, while they were returning from an official mission in La Argelia.

These casualties bring to 16 the number of Conservative Party militants who have been assassinated. Some of the most recent casualties are Waldo Quintero, Alfonso Ruiz, Rafael (Chochelo), (Ronel) Munoz, Florentino Solano, Antonio Hoyos, Abelardo Ordonez and Marco Aurelio Ordonez.

The police in La Argelia, Cauca Department, have been accused of instigating the violent actions in which a group of Conservatives of the department have died. This charge was made in the message to the former president. The message notes that 16 Conservatives have been killed in the community under mysterious circumstances.

The message notes that when Mayor Celio Molano was witnessing the removal of Alderman Marco Aurelio Ordonez' body, a policeman named (Aristala) pointed a gun at him and said he should also be lying there. On returning to his apartment, the mayor found a bullet with a death threat. The mayor [words indistinct] resigned from his post.

MAO-ELN ALLIANCE SEEKING RELEASE OF M-19 MEMBERS

PA021354 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--A firm offensive against the self-styled Workers Self-Defense Movement (MAO) has been undertaken by military intelligence in the past few days here. The Military Institutes Brigade's operations unit has reported the arrest of 56 members of the subversive group after raids in several parts of the city.

It was learned that this subversive group had been contacting the ELN [National Liberation Army] with a view to conducting a large-scale terrorist campaign in the capital. The initial objectives of the alliance include the release of all M-19 members in prison throughout the country.

PRESIDENT STROESSNER OPENS 1979 CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

FY011507 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Apr 79 pp 12-14 PY

[Speech to the nation on 1 April by Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner opening the 1979 congressional period]

[Excerpts] Honorable members of Congress:

In line with the provisions of Article 180, paragraph 10 of the national Constitution, I appear before your honors to report on the actions of my administration from 1 April 1978 to the present.

The state of law prevailing in our country is proof of the respect for the provisions of the national Constitution regarding the development of the human being. Leaders and people abide by the law in line with the principles of a democratic and civilized society.

Our national Congress is irrefutable proof of our institutional and democratic development. Here, representatives of the majority and the opposition fully express unquestionable political freedom through their discussions and debates.

Those who slander our free institutions do so because they would like ours to be a weak democracy, unable to defend itself from the conspiracies of the totalitarians and the subversives. We abide by the spirit and letter of our national Constitution when we prevent the detractors of our republican and democratic government system from performing their activities which are harmful to society. International communism will be unable to prey on us through its oppressive and violent ideology because the nationalist and democratic convictions of the absolute majority of our citizens constitute an impregnable stronghold against any totalitarian endeavor aimed at the destruction of the peaceful and free lifestyle which is the source of the spiritual and moral wealth of the nation.

The 1967 Constitution, whose limpid legitimacy provides the guidelines for the nation's institutional life, stresses the duty to respect human rights in its beautiful and enlightening introduction. This concern for justice and human dignity has been our government's banner from the first day I took over the responsibilities which are mine as a result of the elections. Our victory in the struggle to guarantee respect for human rights is proven beyond doubt by the peace we now enjoy, a peace which provides every inhabitant of the country with the assurance that no one will be unjustly persecuted by public forces and no one will experience attacks on his life, freedom or private property from repressive political forces which take advantage of their immunity to endanger collective security.

Since we have spent so much energy to provide our fellow countrymen and the foreigners who live on our hospitable soil the enjoyment of a life free from fears and unpleasant surprises, we will not allow the emergence of the pharisees of democracy who fly the banner of human rights while encouraging crimes and subversion. Those who serve extremist plans and allow themselves to be used by violence are the nemies of the state of law and the true violators of society's legal and ethical principles.

We will continue firmly protecting the peace of the nation because this peace is the basis for national prosperity. The political adventurers, the traitors and the totalitarians will be always defeated by the awareness of the people who are not prepared to exchange progress for stagnation, hope for uncertainty and freedom for oppression. The great majority of the nation is engaged in peaceful tasks. In the meantime, small groups of opponents, without any popular backing at all, become involved in senseless adventures to undermine the firm and inalienable national desire to attain well-being for Paraguay.

The constant popular support we receive encourages us to continue engaging in peaceful and progressive endeavors for our nation's benefit and our perseverance with such exhalted objectives is stimulated by the praise which Paraguay receives from high-ranking foreigners following their unbiased analyses which cannot be disputed. In this regard, it is appropriate to recall the praise bestowed on our swift social and economic progress by President of the Interamerican Development Bank Antonio Ortiz Mena during his recent visit to our country.

These voices of optimism and truth strengthen our spirit which is utterly convinced of the extraordinary potential of our people to dignify peace with their toil, as in times of war they have enhanced their history through tenacity and heroism. To slander the fatherland abroad in the service of illegitimate goals such as conspiring against its greatness and prosperity is not suitable for the sons of Marshal Francisco Solano Lopez' fatherland, but for individuals who bear the infamy of being heirs of legioneers and the mark of deserters of the immaculate patriotism upheld by the great and everpresent figures of our history.

Honorable members of the national Congress:

Our foreign policy follows the traditional line of cooperation and sustained solidarity with friendly nations.

We project into the world the clear-cut image of a people who love peace and democracy; a people who scrupulously abide by the principles of international law; a people who promote with pleasure the relations with nations which feel our same desire for a fraternal relationship.

Our foreign positions have never been vaccilating, ambiguous or speculative. We act abroad on the basis of the same straightforward principles of national dignity which we apply inside our country to defend the sacred gains of the Paraguayan people.

We are and will remain staunch guardians of our sovereignty. Since so many heroes offered their lives for it, leaving us a fatherland whose honor is unblemished, our supreme duty is to preserve this fatherland with the same patriotism and moral integrity.

Our foreign relations policy has always been coherent and its nature is clearly reflected by our respect for accords and treaties and the fulfillment of commitments in a framework of mutual respect and growing solidarity and cooperation, especially with nations which, aware of our situation, join us in the efforts whose results benefit all participants equally.

The visit of Their Royal Highnesses Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko in June was a pleasant event which allowed us to show the affection and admiration which we Paraguayans feel toward the striving nation of the rising sun. Our cooperation with this country is growing and the trade, as well as the technical, economic and financial aid which we receive from Japan has been increased through the signing of new accords which were the positive results of this pleasant visit.

The diversion of the Parana River on 20 October as part of the construction of the Itaipu dam marked a very important stage due to its technological display and significance. On that occasion we met with the president of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Gen Ernesto Geisel, and reaffirmed our inalienable decision to conclude this monumental project. Our presence in Brasilia during the presidential inauguration of Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, during which we received ample proof of the affection and hospitality of the Brazilian people and government, provided us with the assurances of an uninterrupted, effective and fruitful cooperation between the two nations.

For the construction of the Yacyreta dam we are working jointly with Argentina.

Honorable members of the national Congress:

We guarantee the continuing development of the country's progress by means of the constant encouragement of projects related to economic and social facilities aimed at giving the population an access to better standards of living.

We do not neglect the orderly utilization of mechanisms necessary for a well-balanced financial policy, having both taxpayers and investors cooperate with the government efforts toward national development.

The resul's of the budget for fiscal year 1978 confirm the success of this policy since the regular income was 8,011,600,000 guaranies--that is, 34 percent above the estimated income for this year and 7,168,300,000 above the income of 1977.

As to government's participation in the nation's economy, it is worth pointing out that the consumption of the public sector reached 21.1 billion guaranies, which is a 29-percent increase over 1977. Public investments totaled 24.3 billion, 29 percent higher than in 1977. The participation of the public sector in the country's overall investment remained the same as in 1977: 30 percent.

Honorable members of the national Congress:

Justice is the supreme ideal of the peoples who want to develop within the framework of freedom and the laws which set the guidelines for coexistence without harming the interests of man and society, based on wise and equitable laws.

The nations which seek dignity through law uphold the luminous principle that justice is the constant desire to give each person what is rightfully his.

The national government will maintain its decision to make efforts aimed at an overall improvement of the administration of justice, whose duty is to adjust its action to the national Constitution so as to promote the state of law with dedication and independence.

Honorable members of the national Congress:

We live in times marked by democratic coexistence. An absolute majority of our citizens cooperate for the maintenance of order through justice and freedom, based on the principles and guidelines of the state of law.

The Colorado Party, faithful to its doctrine of peace and democracy, is an example of civic responsibility in these times in which the country is living because it dedicates its human and spiritual wealth to supporting our government's efforts aimed at attaining Paraguay's greatness.

The institutional process which we have placed on unshakeable bases gives rise to political coexistence and provides the proper atmosphere for the unrestricted development of democratically-oriented civic activities which seek legitimate objectives.

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT CARAZO TO VISIT CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES

PA022033 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1630 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] President Rodrigo Carazo will visit several Central American countries during the week following Holy Week. Carazo will be in Tegucigalpa on Tuesday, 16 April, and will hold a meeting with the government junta and its president, Policarpo Paz Garcia. He will go to Guatemala on the following morning and meet with President Romeo Lucas Garcia. That same day, in the afternoon, he will be in El Salvador for a meeting with President Carlos Humberto Romero.

During this visit to the Central American countries, President Carazo will talk to his colleagues regarding problems in the Common Market and the reduction of customs taxes. As is known, Carazo issued economic measures to decrease the prices of farming and agro-chemical articles, but the other countries have been unable to reduce customs taxes.

Carazo will be accompanied by Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro and Ministers Fernando Altmann Ortiz, Hernan Saenz Jimenez and Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier.

MINISTER ECHEVERRIA COMMENTS ON VENEZUELAN ARMS ISSUE

PA311448 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2340 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A U.S. Senate investigation of an arms shipment from the Venezuelan Government to Costa Rica has been considered by Costa Rican Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria as an attempt by Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza to promote a scandal in Costa Rica. U.S. Senator [as received] Eldon Rudd has announced that he has asked for an investigation into a shipment of 1,000 U.S.-made M-14 rifles from Venezuela to Costa Rica because he believes that this violates the legal provisions which prevent the reexportation of arms. The shipment was made as a loan.

At home, the importation of the rifles has elicited negative reactions because it is believed that the legislature should have approved such a decision, which did not happen. Echeverria said that only 500 rifles were imported but that if a situation arises which obliges him to import the rest [as received], he will not hesitate to do so. On Senator Rudd's charge, Echeverria said that all legal requirements were met by the Costa Rican Government.

Echeverria denied that the rifles sent by Venezuela at the beginning of 1979 had fallen into the hands of Sandinist National Liberation Front guerrillas. However, he conceded that when he assumed power, it was discovered that there was a shortage among the old M-1 rifles which Costa Rica possessed.

FSLN'S FATHER CARDENAL CLEARED, ALLOWED TO RETURN

PA301413 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The minister of government and public security said yesterday that certain circumstances had arisen in the past few hours which had favorably changed the situation of Ernesto Cardenal, who was going to be blocked from entering this country.

COLOMBIA'S URIBE URGES STRENGTHENING OAS, REGIONAL TIES

PA301417 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Lima--Colombia's and Peru's faith in integration has been furthered during Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas' visit here. The diplomat urged hemispheric nations to rescue the OAS from the shadows into which some have tried to plunge it and to strengthen it as an institutional element in talks not only between our countries but with other groups of nations.

Uribe Vargas made an important statement on American problems during ceremonies at Torre Tagle Palace when he was decorated with the Order of the Grand Cross of the Ayachucho, the highest award of the Peruvian Government. The minister said the OAS and the Latin American Economic System should continue to be the forum for discussion of hemispheric problems and especially for multilateral dialog with the big powers. As the nations of other continents are consolidating efforts and planning strategies to defend regional interests, nothing would be more contrary to historical experience than to tone down the importance of instruments intended to promote unity of nations within a legal framework and respect for public treaties, Foreign Minister Uribe Vargas said.

Bilateral Relations

PY301340 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas said there are only positive aspects on the paths of integration and cooperation between our two countries, after being declared an honored guest of Lima. He stressed the ever-increasing links between the two countries, which have common roots and shared traditions.

The foreign minister attended a ceremony yesterday at Lima's town hall in which he was declared an honored guest of Lima by Mayor (Roberto Carrillon).

Uribe Vargas and the industry, commerce, tourism and integration minister, Rear Adm Jorge du Bois Gervassi, stressed the integrationist inclinations of Peru and Colombia and the firm decision of the two countries to strengthen the Andean Pact during a protocol visit made by the former to the minister's office.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Uribe Vargas remarked that they had talked about concrete aspects of the Cartagena Agreement meeting to be held on 26 May, and mainly about the progress of the Andean Group. Du Bois Gervassi stated that Uribe Vargas' visit was a demonstration of the Colombian Government's intention to strengthen the integration process during the coming meeting of presidents.

Agreements, Joint Declaration

PA011853 Paris AFP in Spanish 0349 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 30 Mar (AFP)--Peru and Colombia entered into a phase of vigorous cooperation today with the signing of five agreements and a joint declaration by Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Garcia Bedoya and Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas. The two ministers stressed the spectacular advances in bilateral cooperation and the prospects for greater ties between their countries and Latin America and the rest of the world.

The first international agreement, the Amazon cooperation treaty, provides for creation of a joint commission to promote development, protect the environment and defend the natural resources in the Amazon region of the two countries.

The second agreement is on the control, prevention and repression of the use of narcotics. It also provides for creation of a joint commission to struggle against drug trafficking, which has become a scourge in the two nations.

The third agreement deals with the conservation of Amazon flora and fauna. It will seek to combat the illegal traffic in these species and to promote joint studies for their conservation.

The fourth document is a basic technical and scientific cooperation agreement which will seek to promote the socioeconomic development of the two countries on the basis of binational projects of mutual benefit under the control of a joint commission.

The fifth agreement refers to the exchange of ratification documents of the Peruvian-Colombian cultural agreement signed here in 1961 by Colombian and Peruvian foreign ministers Julio Cesar Turbay and Luis Alvarado.

The joint declaration of the Peruvian and Colombian foreign ministers reiterated the two countries' sovereignty rights and jurisdiction over their territorial waters, 200 miles (360 km) off their coasts. It also expressed Peru's great satisfaction over the possibility of Colombia's imminent entrance into the South Pacific system--composed of Ecuador, Peru and Chile--for the defense of the territorial sea and the conservation of its resources. Garcia Bedoya and Uribe Vargas expressed their satisfaction over the possibility of shortly concluding operations for the supply of Peruvian hydrocarbons to Colombia.

The two countries recommended joint actions to defend just coffee prices and to control the spread of coffee rust. It was also decided that the joint Economic and Trade Coordination Commission will meet in Lima during the second half of the year to evaluate the result of its work and to recommend new measures.

The ministers reiterated their broadest and most determined support for subregional integration and stressed the significance and importance of the next conference of Andean presidents, to be held on the 12th anniversary of the Cartagena Agreement. Garcia Bedoya and Uribe Vargas noted the importance of the decision adopted by the commission of the Cartagena Agreement on the creation of an Andean court of justice, which will improve the agreement's legal structure.

They also decided to promote appropriate formulas for the reorganization of the Latin American Free Trade Association in order to adapt it to the needs of the region. They promised to strengthen the Latin American Economic System and to join efforts to conclude the reform of the Inter-American System. They condemned restrictive practices in international commerce, adding that they support stable just prices for basic export products.

After reiterating their support for the principles of the UN and OAS charters, they condemned all forms of colonialism and racial discrimination.

Concluding, Garcia Bedoya and Vargas Uribe stressed the importance of efforts to achieve general and total disarmament under international control, particularly in the nuclear field.

DEPUTIES WARNED AGAINST INTERVENING IN MINERS STRIKE

PA311607 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0215 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 30 Mar (EFE)--The Peruvian military government today warned that it will take measures if the deputies of five leftist parties travel to the copper centers to intervene in strikes there. A communique of the Labor Ministry also indicated that "the strike has been lifted" at the Toquepala mines and that more than 60 percent of the workers are at work at the Cuajone mines. The official source said that most of the workers at the Ilo copper foundry are at their posts.

The communique said the personnel of the three mining centers accepted the increase offered by the U.S Southern Peru Copper Corporation, which manages the mines in southern Peru.

Papers today reported the decision of deputies of the Trotskyist Front, the Maoist Popular Democratic Union, the Communist Party and two other leftist groups to go to the mines to "mediate in the labor conflict." It was also reported today that the enterprise has dismissed 186 striking workers, mainly leaders of the unions which are controlled by the radical left.

The deputies' trip to Tacna and Moquegua departments is scheduled for Saturday. The Labor Ministry reminded the deputies that those departments are under a state of emergency, with a suspension of individual guarantees. They are also under military jurisdiction.

PPC REPRESENTATIVES WITHDRAW FROM ASSEMBLY SESSIONS

PA030350 Paris AFP in Spanish 0225 GMT 3 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 2 Apr (AFP)--The Peruvian Constituent Assembly tonight abruptly suspended debate when legislators from the Popular Christian Party [PPC] left the room, leaving the assembly without a quorum, and another member declared a hunger strike. The two measures were in protest against the closure of 10 independent magazines in the capital ordered by the military government in January and February on charges that the magazines encouraged a subversive strike and waged a campaign against the government.

The assembly, which was in permanent session to begin discussion of the draft of the new constitution, declared a recess in the hope of solving the problem, which had arisen last week.

In fact, on Tuesday Luis Bedoya Reyes, secretary general of the Popular Christian Party--which has the second largest representation after APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance]--had announced that his group would leave the session if the reopening of the publications had not been ordered by today. On the same occasion, member Pedro Caceres of the Peasants and Workers National Front said he would declare a hunger strike for the same reason. Since some 30 legislators of the extreme left reached the same decision last week, the assembly was left without a quorum after the 25 Popular Christian delegates withdrew.

CONGRESS MAY DISCUSS COLOMBIA GENOCIDE CHARGE

PA301255 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Jose Rodriguez Iturbe, chairman of the foreign policy committee of the Chamber of Deputies, has urgently requested the right to speak before Congress on the situation denounced by Colombian congressmen with regard to alleged genocide on the Colombian-Venezuelan border. Colombian congressmen have denounced alleged killings of Colombians in Venezuelan territory as genocide, although there is no proof that such killings have taken place.

In Caracas leaders of the government and opposition have characterized the charge by the Colombian Congress as unwarranted. The impression is that the Colombian congressmen have been victims of insufficient information on something that has been sensationalized in the news media of the sister nation. Dr Jose Rodriguez Iturbe said these reports are obviously aimed at disturbing relations between Venezuela and Colombia.

Meanwhile, State Attorney Jose Ramon Medina said: I have no information on the number of Colombians who have died in the border area, but I think the figure of 400 given by authorities in the neighboring country is exaggerated. Dr Medina made this statement after having given the president of the Senate his yearly report on his work. I think we cannot talk about genocide, Dr Medina said, although this is an abnormal situation.

Minister on Colombian 'Approach'

PA311210 Caracas VENPRES Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2313 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Excerpt] Caracas, 29 Mar (VENPRES)--Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco has said that the approach to the situation that occurred on the border with the brotherly country of Colombia does not reflect the reality of events. The statement is in response to the charge made by the Colombia Chamber of Representatives to the effect that Venezuelan authorities killed Colombians who were attempting to enter Venezuela illegally. In addition, a group of Colombian congressmen requested OAS intervention to initiate an investigation into the alleged genocide.

Zambrano Velasco said in his opinion it will be up to Venezuelan congressmen to answer the charges made by their Colombian counterparts.

DEFENSE MINISTER APPROVED U.S. PROBE OF ARMS SALE

PA301200 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Fernando Paredes Bello has stated that the U.S. Senate is completely free to conduct whatever investigation it wants to conduct on the delivery or sale of arms to any country in the world. He made this statement with regard to the request made by Republican Representative [name indistinct] to the U.S. Congress. The request was made with regard to the alleged delivery of 1,000 rifles [words indistinct] that Venezuela made to Costa Rica.

BULGARIAN CHAIRMAN TODOR ZHIVKOV ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

Report on Arrival, Itinerary

PA022354 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2330 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Cancun, Mexico, 2 Apr (EFE)--Todor Zhivkov, president [as received] of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, arrived today in this Mexican port on the Caribbean for an official 6-day visit to Mexico. The Bulgarian chief of state, who is accompanied by his daughter Ludmila Zhivkova, the Bulgarian first lady, was received by Foreign Minister Santiago Roel representing Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo.

During his visit Zhivkov will meet twice with the Mexican President in the country's capital, after which a joint communique will be issued. Zhivkov's program of activities also includes the inauguration of two pictorial exhibitions, a dinner with workers and a tour of the State of Guerrero, where he will visit the tourist center at Acapulco.

According to Bulgarian Embassy sources, the talks between the two chiefs of state will not include the subject of Mexican hydrocarbons, which has attracted several presidents in the last few months. The Mexican Government's main interest during this visit will be centered on the vertical agro-industrial structure achieved by Bulgaria.

Cancun is located 1,200 km southeast of the Mexican capital.

Zhivkov Television Interview

PA021844 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Part one of interview with Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, for Mexico City Television Channel 13, recorded on 28 March in Sofia; in Bulgarian fading into Spanish]

[Text] [Question] Mr Chairman, the visit you are about to make to Mexico to a certain extent corresponds to the one President Lopez-Portillo made to Bulgaria. Is it foreseeable that some agreements or accords will emerge between our countries? Can you advance any information on this topic?

[Answer] It is true that the time approaches when I will be traveling to your country [words indistinct] not making the trip because of your copper, petroleum or the other natural wealths of Mexico, although there is a shortage of these in Bulgaria. God has [word indistinct] us. He has not given us natural resources. What God [words indistinct] the friendly characteristic, in a climate of happiness, of optimism.

Regarding my forthcoming meeting with my friend Lopez-Portillo, I can say that this meeting will be fruitful and will mark progress in the development of relations between our two countries and two peoples.

With regard to the [words indistinct] the second question you are going to ask, I have to say that Bulgarian-Mexican (?relations) began to develop in 1934, but their greatest activity began in (?1977) when we signed in Mexico a commercial agreement and an agreement on cooperation in the fields of culture and education.

A new stage in relations opened with the official visit to Bulgaria by Mexican President Lopez-Portillo last spring during which, as a result of the talks and negotiations we conducted with him, several agreements and protocols were signed. Those documents contain matters related to cooperation between our two countries in the fields of economy, collaboration in [words indistinct], agriculture, transport and other important issues.

[Question] Mr Chairman, regarding farming affairs, and taking into account Bulgaria's great progress in this field, as could be appreciated by Mexican President Lopez-Portillo, who was highly impressed and so commented, is there a possibility of sending or transferring certain types of farming technology to Mexico?

[Answer] Farming is developing well and successfully. Large-scale socialist agriculture exists. At present farming in our country is totally organized into industrial complexes and agrarian areas.

(?I must) inform you of something new. Within a few days, a constituent congress for the creation for a (?human) organization of Bulgaria will be held. This represents a new stage in the development of Bulgarian agriculture. At this time, our agriculture can supply food to Bulgaria (?and still export another 50 percent). Toward 1981-82 it will be able to supply food to two Bulgarias, and after 1985 to three Bulgarias. It is therefore that [words indistinct] President Lopez-Portillo.

Bulgaria and Mexico recently established cooperation in the sphere of agriculture. We agreed with Mexico to organize several agro-industrial complexes with our technical aid. We are also collaborating with our materials in the food industry, which is (?related) to agriculture, in the matter of directive councils and other things. A group of Bulgarian farming specialists is currently working in Mexico.

With regard to all this, I am convinced that in the future we must and should (?expand) to a broader cooperation as regards exchange of experiences, in the [word indistinct] of technology as well as [word indistinct] in the transfer of technology. We are in condition of [word indistinct] modern farming techniques and of partly satisfying (?its) needs. Without doubt, we can also (?offer you) considerable experience regarding agricultural problems. It is a known fact that Mexico has achieved important success in its work of (?crop) selection that has been internationally recognized. We also appreciate this and we consider that [words indistinct], especially in cultivations such as [word indistinct] corn and other [words indistinct] this country's traditional climate characteristics we can (?establish) broad collaboration. In addition, we are not specialized in a [word indistinct] of making use of your expertise in the production of several byproducts of [words indistinct], and also with regard to the production of some corn byproducts.

Regarding possible cooperation, this is very (?limited), but I am optimistic regarding our cooperation in the fields of agriculture and food industry, in scientific work and mechanization, which offer broad possibilities which are in line with the interests of our countries.

[Question] Mr Chairman, your production of gas and oil (?is insufficient) to supply, to satisfy, domestic needs. Has the Iranian crisis affected you in any way?

[Answer] The decline in petroleum production due to the constant [word indistinct] in the spiraling scale of prices represents [words indistinct] a worldwide circumstance. Naturally, this exerts a certain negative influence on our economy.

[Words indistinct] almost the total amount of our needs for petroleum and petroleum byproducts [words indistinct] despite the enormous work [words indistinct] to date [words indistinct] of petroleum in Bulgaria. Therefore, in the future, we will continue to import petroleum although, logically, we will continue our exploration work, importing most of the oil from the Soviet Union [words indistinct] quantities from other countries, including a willingness to import petroleum from Mexico [word indistinct] under mutually (?satisfactory) conditions.

[Question] Mr President, on 27 February 1933 Adolph Hitler signed in (?Rexa), on the occasion of the (?fire) which facilitated Hitler's access to what later was [words indistinct], a famous leader went down in history because of his denunciation of the Fascist plot. I have no need to mention that it was George Dimitrov, who was tried in Leipzig as being responsible for this fire but was freed when it was proved that the charge was unfounded. Would you find certain historical similarities between certain charges being launched against persons and nations for the purpose of justifying adventures of a Fascist, in some cases, and warlike, in others, nature or, said in a briefer way, what would George Dimitrov think in 1979 of China's aggression against Vietnam?

[Answer] You correctly (?outline) the role [word indistinct] and played by George Dimitrov, the great hero of the Bulgarian people, in the struggle against Fascism. It is known that certain (?social) circles planned and contributed to the seizure of power by (?Hitler). In fact, they [words indistinct] in this case the possibility of [words indistinct] and all those countries in which Fascism could prepare for the defeat of the Soviet Union.

It is a known fact that Hitler [words indistinct] the Soviet Union, provoked World War II, which brought an end to enormous quantities of (?victims) [words indistinct] of Europe.

As a result of the victory of the [word indistinct] force, above all, the enormous courage of the Soviet Union because the [words indistinct] the socialist system [words indistinct]. Naturally, the facts of history do not (?reflect) [passage indistinct] now attacks Vietnam, but tomorrow may attack all of Asia. Some Western circles attribute great historical merit to China for having hit (?the Soviet Union). In all, China has a frontier of thousands of kilometers with the Soviet Union, and all aggression against the Soviet Union would be an adventure. The direction in which China will be going tomorrow is not known. [Words indistinct] those who presently are arming China and are preparing it for an aggression and for a defeat of the Soviet Union.

To this effect, today we (?see) a new phenomenon in the world. This phenomenon is [words indistinct] with hegemonism and with its ambition, which in reality is being [word indistinct] by the [words indistinct] and Western forces, which are (?giving) increasingly greater quantities of weapons. Nevertheless, this is poor accounting. Aggression against Vietnam is an episode that clearly reveals the essence of Chinese policy and the aims of that policy regarding the Asian Continent and the world in general. This policy could lead humanity to a third world war which, naturally, would be a thermonulcear war.

[Question] Mr President, do you think that this conflict, the first between two socialist countries, not only threatens the peace of the world--or did threaten the peace of the world--but even threatens the historic objectives of socialism?

[Answer] Socialism has not been threatened. Only the Chinese clique has been threatened. If [words indistinct] cannot do so, because what China does has nothing in common with [word indistinct], cannot have in common that aggressive line of [words indistinct] Marxist-Leninist leadership [words indistinct] the history of humanity [words indistinct].

(?With the socialist countries) we have [words indistinct] and the task of [word indistinct] and the strengthening of the [words indistinct] of that effort and the establishment of a [word indistinct] in the world, in which many [word indistinct] are involved, people, the progressive forces of the world [words indistinct]. Above all, there will come [words indistinct] preparation and the practice of war is not strictly [words indistinct]. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Mr President: Do you think that the differences, at the international level, between the Chinese and Soviet positions are insurmountable?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] a gigantic cauldron that is boiling. And will it explode? Nobody can yet foresee the future or [words indistinct] can offer.

Continuation of Interview

PA021905 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Part two of interview with Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Council of State of Bulgaria, for Mexico City Television Channel 13, recorded on 28 March in Sofia; in Bulgarian fading into Spanish]

[Text] [Question] Mr Chairman, what will Bulgaria do in the face of the world energy crisis? I refer not only to Bulgaria but the whole world--the economic repercussions of the crisis.

[Answer] We naturally regret the negative effects of the crisis on the (?Western) countries. We have economic cooperation with many of them and [words indistinct] certain negative effects on our economy, but only certain negative effects. Our economy is a [word indistinct] economy so we do not suffer economic crises. This is the nature of socialism. Foreign crises cannot have lasting effects on the development of our economy. [Words indistinct] general crisis that no one can predict. It is possible that this crisis which has a certain [word indistinct] on development will be overcome, but it will explode once again later. This is a characteristic of capitalism (?and) the conditions of imperialism. This is what we Marxist-Leninists [words indistinct]. (?As regards) Bulgaria, we have some difficulties, but we are already taking measures to combat them.

[Question] Do you agree that petroleum should, as the Mexican president has said, be the patrimony of humanity?

[Answer] That is correct. Petroleum is very important in a modern economy. We cannot imagine the development of the developed capitalist economies without petroleum. It is used in the chemical industry, in almost all fields of economy, in man's daily life and so on. That is, petroleum is a strategic raw material.

Energy problems are among the most important for the world's development. But the solution of the problem is very difficult and complex. Behind petroleum are the interests of the biggest monopolies in the capitalist countries. Naturally, one has to work to introduce a [word indistinct] and coordination in petroleum policy. (?One has to stop) the constant increase of petroleum prices, since this harms the broad masses, including those of the Western countries.

Regarding the People's Republic of Bulgaria, I reiterate that its petroleum needs are satisfied mainly by the Soviet Union. The truth is that the small quantities that we import from other countries are not decisive or fundamental for our development.

[Question] Mr Chairman, an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was signed in Washington on Monday. Do you think peace in the Middle East is possible without bearing in mind the Arab world?

[Answer] No, no way. Peace can be achieved only if the just interests and just cause of the Arabs are taken into account. Peace in the Middle East is impossible without the Arabs. The separate agreement signed by Egypt and Israel with the participation of the United States has no real worth and cannot be applied. This separate deal was made and signed behind the backs of the Arabs and is contrary to all their interests. Therefore, this treaty is like an aborted fetus which dies at birth.

[Question] [Words indistinct] In Latin America, Cuba marks a change of the situation. There are problems in some countries such as Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chile, Argentina, Brazil and several others. Do you believe it is feasible that the phenomenon of Cuba will be repeated?

[Answer] Latin America [words indistinct] Bulgaria. We do not know the atmosphere of this region well, and it would be very difficult for me to give a categoric reply to this question. But sooner or later the case of Cuba will be repeated [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] All the [word indistinct] countries are making efforts to develop our trade with the Latin American countries. In the past few years, good results have been obtained. To give an example, in the past 5 or 6 years, the volume of trade with these countries increased almost [number indistinct] times. We would like to develop and expand trade relations with the Latin American countries. We already trade with many of them. In most of these countries there is a desire to develop political and economic independence. [Words indistinct] the national economies of those countries and the structure of the Bulgarian economy, we believe that conditions exist for a broad development of trade with Latin America. This is just what we desire.

[Question] What will your message to the Mexican people be?

[Answer] Above all, I would like to express my satisfaction and that of the Bulgarian Government and people over the development of Bulgarian-Mexican relations. I take advantage of this opportunity to send warmest greetings to the Mexican people, government, Mexican President Lopez-Portillo, a distinguished statesman and great friend of the Bulgarian people, and Mrs Carmen Romano de Lopez-Portillo. I would like to wish them peace and all [words indistinct].

[Question] This is your first trip to Mexico. What do you expect to find there?

[Answer] Friends, above all, a friendly people. In Mexico we will continue the dialog that we began here with President Lopez-Portillo. [Words indistinct] great optimism. We hope that the talks I will hold with Lopez-Portillo and other Mexican leaders will be successful and will mark [words indistinct] cooperation between our countries which will be in the interest of our two peoples. (?It will also be) a contribution to our common desire for peace and understanding in the world.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] It is a shame that you cannot spend more time in Bulgaria. [Words indistinct] so that you can get to know Bulgaria. [Words indistinct] in the cities, in rural areas, all over Bulgaria, you will see a very hospitable people.

Before our socialist revolution, Bulgaria was next to last in Europe because of its underdevelopment and its [words indistinct] agriculture. Now our [word indistinct] of people's power is developing [words indistinct] possibility for an increase [words indistinct]. Our people want to live in peace and understanding with the [word indistinct] and the whole world. This is the most important [word indistinct] for Bulgaria. We want a lasting peace. We want to stop the arms race, to avoid a third world war because [word indistinct] would be a (?thermonuclear) war. It is difficult that [words indistinct] what will be the results of that third war. [Words indistinct] there are many thermonuclear arms that could not only destroy our planet but [words indistinct]. The essential thing is peace. That is the thing for Bulgaria. That is its [word indistinct] and basic development. Our people want to live in peace and understanding with all peoples near and far.

[Question] Mr Chairman, you have been more than kind in granting us the interview, since we know that you are a busy man. Thank you very much.

[Answer] I also thank you. I hope that [words indistinct] Mexico.

BRIEFS

NEW CONCAMIN PRESIDENT--Ernesto Rubio was elected president of the Confederation of Industrial Chambers [CONCAMIN] at the end of the confederation's annual meeting. The new president said that he will focus his work on the unification of the sector, the promotion of new investments and the generation of new jobs. The new CONCAMIN president replaces Luis Guzman de Alba. He obtained 40 of the 62 votes from the delegates attending the meeting. He said that during his term he will strengthen the participation of the Chambers of Commerce. The annual CONCAMIN meeting concluded with the election of the new president. [Text] [Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA]

COMMUNIQUE ON CANAL TREATY RATIFICATION INSTRUMENTS

PA011430 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 1 Apr 79 p 1 PA

[Text of communique issued on 1 April 1979 by the Panamanian Foreign Ministry]

[Text] Panama's Foreign Ministry informs that the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the Panama Canal treaty and the treaty regarding the permanent neutrality and operation of the Panama Canal, dating from September 1977, becomes effective today, April 1, 1979, in accordance with what was stipulated in the protocol subscribed on the 16th of June, 1978, in Panama City by General Omar Torrijos and President Jimmy Carter, representing the Republic of Panama and the United States of America, respectively. According to its terms, the treaties will become effective six months from today; that is, on October 1, 1979. The governments of Panama and the United States of America, in keeping with the wishes expressed by Presidents Royo and Carter, are actively engaged in the necessary preparations, taking into consideration the beginning of the effectiveness of the Torrijos-Carter treaties in October 1, 1979, according to what was established.

ASSEMBLY SEEKS REPORT ON TREATY IMPLEMENTATION

PA030006 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] The Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives held a meeting today with the participation of Juan Antonio Barba, acting president of the assembly. The important subjects that committee members discussed included topics related to the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and the return of land to our country. The committee will send three resolutions to the Foreign Ministry asking that it report to the members of the people's body about the progress of the negotiations provided for in the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Representive Lorenzo Sotero, member of the committee, said the following about the meeting:

[Begin Sotero recording] We decided to send three resolutions or letters to the Foreign Ministry, since we want to know about the progress of the negotiations provided for in the Torrijos-Carter treaties, at least with regard to the return of land. Since we are representatives of the people's power and are the spokesmen of this committee at the honorable assembly, we want to have detailed information for the representatives of all the provinces. [end recording]

In his speech to the committee, Representative Barba promised the committee members that they will soon be given the opportunity to pay a visit to the Canal Zone so they can learn firsthand of the installations and lands that will revert back to Panama.

GUARD SPOKESMAN DENIES INTENTION TO BUY FIGHTER PLANES

PA021735 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The Panamanian ambassador in Washington told the international news agency ACAN-EFE yesterday that the suspension of U.S. military aid to Panama contradicts what had been previously agreed upon. The measure was requested by Congressman Bob Bauman, firm opponent of the prompt enforcement of the Panamanian-U.S. Canal treaties which will go into effect on 1 October. Ambassador Lopez Guevara said that Panama and the United States signed an economic cooperation agreement about 3 months ago. The agreement included military aid. An allocation was made for it, and the House of Representatives is contradicting that.

With regard to the Washington-datelined EFE news item, a National Guard spokesman told this station over the telephone in the late afternoon that Panama does not plan to purchase fighter planes, and the $2.5 million credit, as Col Florencio Florez said, would be used to purchase equipment for the National Guard's police work and other tasks assigned to it in its participation in the defense of the Panama Canal and the maintenance of security in our country. The guard spokesman reiterated that the institution would at no time use that credit to purchase fighter planes.

EDITORIAL NOTES CARTER ACTION IN FAVOR OF TREATIES

PA022215 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 2 Apr 79 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "Carter's Action in Behalf of Canal Treaties"]

[Excerpts] U.S. President Jimmy Carter is taking the offensive to counter congressional opposition--especially the House antitreaty bloc. The most bombastic critics claim that the effects of the treaties will cost the U.S. taxpayers $4 billion.

The exchange of ratification notes on the treaties, scheduled to enter into effect 1 October 1979, was accomplished yesterday.

The U.S. administration has doubled the cost of the treaties to the taxpayers during the last 14 months. On this point, according to an AP dispatch, the State Department said Friday the treaties involve an expenditure no greater than $870 million for the 20 years of their duration.

The money will be used in the transfer of military bases and schools now being subsidized with Canal Zone income. Some officials already confirmed this, and the State Department, denying the false claims of Congressman George Hanson, issued a statement in which it destroys the myth of the $4 billion the treaties supposedly will cost the taxpayers.

High-ranking officials of the State Department clearly stated that "the time has come to respond to the exaggerated claims and unjustifiable figures of Hanson and the gang of enemies of any understanding between Panama and the United States.

President Carter himself has come forth and answered the challenge of the congressmen harassing him, telling them that the treaties will enter into effect on the established dates.

In February 1978, the White House estimated that the canal treaties would cost the U.S. Treasury some $350 million annually. In revising their criteria and admitting an expenditure of $870 million, every foreseeable expense was taken into consideration, and they noted that "not a single penny of that money would go into the hands of the Panamanian Government."

These are the positions which again are confronted fundamentally in the Torrijos-Carter treaties. We realize that the reversion of lands and waters to Panama may imply a cost, the amount of which will depend on the way these assets are managed. To this we do not hesitate to say: Panama will meet its expenditure commitments until it assumes full control of the canal. Then there will be great obligations, but also great rights.

The conscientious citizenry is standing by us with praiseworthy patriotism in our endeavours toward coexistence and progress. The servants of ideologies alien to the nation realize that they will be unable to find popular support for their deceitful preachings while the nation moves--united in thought and action--toward its future, enlightened by the great moments of our history.

At this sacred forum of democracy and true altar of popular sovereignty, we reaffirm today that we shall continue seeking the shiniest and happiest future for our fatherland with all our physical and spiritual strength.

Honorable members of the national Congress:

In opening this congressional period, I express my wishes that you will perform your supreme constitutional duties with the patriotism required by these times in which the happiness of our people and the greatness of Paraguay are being forged without pause or hesitation.

S. AFRICAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CHIEF VISITS

PY311348 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 31 Mar 79 p 6 PY

[Excerpts] Maj Gen Pieter Willem ven der Westhuizen, intelligence chief of the South African Armed Forces, is making a short, good will visit to this country.

Among Maj Gen P. W. Ven der Westhuizen's activities yesterday was a special audience granted him by President Alfredo Stroessner in the Lopez Palace.

AFL-CIO MESSAGE ON CORONEL CASE REPORTED

PY301400 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 30 Mar 79 p 2 PY

[Excerpt] It seems that the highly publicized Constantino Coronel case has taken a new twist, giving international relevance to this extensively discussed case which reportedly has had unforeseen implications. It has been learned that the AFL-CIO, the most important U.S. labor union organization which has more than 20 million members and which exercises an undeniable pressure in U.S. economic and political affairs, has sent a telegram to Justice and Labor Minister Saul Gonzalez requesting his personal intervention to avoid any injustice against Constantino Coronel, who is considered by the AFL-CIO as a patriotic citizen and a staunch democrat.

Moreover, the telegram informs the justice and labor minister that Constantino Coronel has been invited to attend a union training course to be held at the George Meany Studies Center in Washington. This course starts on 11 April 1979.

At present we do not know whether Minister Saul Gonzalez has answered this telegram and, if so, what his answer was.

The measure against the revolutionary priest was to have been taken in view of an international news agency report in which he had been quoted as making charges against the present government. However, the statement was retracted and he even offered the name of Rodolfo Pisa to testify to the fact that the report was false and that he had never made such a statement. Therefore, the Sandinist priest is free to return to our country with the tranquillity and freedom that he has enjoyed over the past 3 years.

NICARAGUA

PANAMANIAN CHARGE DEPARTS; RELATIONS VIRTUALLY SUSPENDED

PA021947 Paris AFP in Spanish 1914 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 2 Apr (AFP)--Panamanian Charge d'Affaires Antonio Correa left for his country today. The embassy told reporters he will not return to Nicaragua. The departure of Correa left only a symbolic Panamanian diplomatic representation in Managua, creating a virtual suspension of relations, it was said here today. Panamanian Ambassador Mario de Obaldia returned to Panama a few days ago and there is no information on whether he will return.

The two diplomatic representatives left the country shortly after Panama officially announced that it will not grant visas to any Nicaraguan citizen. The decision affects some 1,500 Nicaraguan businessmen who frequently travel to Panama to buy merchandise.

Although there has been no official explanation for the closing of the nation to Nicaraguan citizens, press circles commented that the measure appears to be a reprisal against the government of President Anastasio Somoza. Observers claim that the Panamanian press recently accused Somoza of preparing a plan to destabilize the government of President Aristides Royo and to physically eliminate Omar Torrijos, chief of the Panamanian Army. Such measures, according to the Panamanian press, were planned by Somoza in reprisal for the Panamanian Government's decision to give weapons to the Sandinist groups which have attacked Nicaraguan territory from Costa Rica.

Only the military and cultural attaches remain at the Panamanian Embassy. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry refused to make any comments and its spokesmen did not comment as to whether Nicaragua will close its doors to Panamanian citizens.

At this time, the fate of 19 Sandinist refugees at the Panamanian Embassy in Managua is unknown. The Panamanian Government has not yet issued visas for them.

Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Harry Bodan limited himself to telling reporters that in closing its doors to Nicaraguans, Panama adopted an unfriendly attitude.

PCN TO REMAIN IN CONGRESS; FAO STRATEGY QUESTIONED

PA030200 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2210 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 2 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The leadership of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party [PCN], the only opposition party recognized by the government, today rejected the Broad Opposition Front [FAO] demand that it withdraw its members from the National Congress.

The FAO has insistently asked the traditionalist Conservative leadership to stop collaborating with Gen Anastasio Somoza's dictatorial regime, withdraw all its members from the public posts they hold and join the opposition front to the dictatorship. The PCN has responded in a communique that the party's grand convention, which has been convoked for May, will decide on the resignation of the party's parliamentarians and their participation in the recently founded Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua (PCD). Three of the four factions into which Conservatives had been divided decided to unite and found the PCD while remaining within FAO.

The document released by the so-called officialized [officializados] Conservatives states that in an upcoming document addressed to the Nicaraguan people we shall disclose the reasons and bases for our policy, which is inspired in a search for peaceful solutions to the serious and historic crisis that our fatherland is currently experiencing.

PCN leaders regard the FAO's demands as a breach of the mutual respect for the internal administration of each political group, a respect which was agreed on when the opposition political coalition was integrated. The opposition accuses Conservatives of contributing to the strengthening of the Somozist regime through its presence in the government and the presentation of a package of constitutional reforms which the Conservative deputies withdrew last Tuesday. The FAO seeks to completely isolate Somoza's government and has even invoked the cooperation of independent journalists, asking them not to accept official propaganda or information favoring the government.

For their part, Conservative parliamentarians claim that they are remaining in their posts--which are completely popular in origin and do not constitute a gift from the regime--as part of their strategy, since these posts could become a trench from which the opposition could gain power if there were to be a peaceful and constitutional solution to Nicaragua's problems in the event Somoza resigns or is overthrown.

"The FAO should explain whether it has abandoned the civic stand it adopted at the beginning as a system of struggle or if it has decided to follow other paths that lead only to violence, which the PCN does not wish for the Nicaraguan people who have already shed so much blood in their struggle for liberation and democracy," Deputy Jose Medina Cuadra commented.

ANOTHER MANAGUA RADIO STATION CLOSED; SUSPENSIONS EXPLAINED

Broadcasts Suspended

PA301259 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2304 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 29 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The radio and television office today ordered the closure of another Managua radio station for an unspecified period. Reports indicate that the station, El Fabuloso Siete, was closed because the directors of one of its newscasts refused to pay a fine of 750 cordobas (over $100).

On Wednesday the radio office closed Radio Corporacion, one of the country's most popular radio stations, for 3 months. Today some 100 Radio Corporacion employees went with Fabio Gadeas, manager and owner of the station, to the Government Ministry, where he filed an appeal against the ruling of Col Alberto Luna, chief of the radio and television department.

Further Details

PA012150 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0430 GMT 1 Apr 79 PA

[Text] It is not true that El Fabuloso Siete is closed. In a campaign of yellow journalism, several newscasts have led the people to believe that El Fabuloso Siete is closed. What happened was that Adaluz Monterrey, who was punished with a small fine of 750 cordobas, made the people believe that it was 7,000 cordobas, as the antagonistic press reported. She did not pay the fine to the Social Assistance Board within the specified time and the radio office has complied with the law by prohibiting broadcasting until the fine is paid. The management of the radio station realized that the station was being hurt and immediately demanded that the fine be paid, after which the station went back on the air.

In the case of Radio Futura, the radio office has not closed the station. It was the victim of the wave of terror by subversives who want to use such incidents to hurt the government.

Radio Mundial has reported that some of its tubes are bad and it is under repair. We report all this so that the people will not be deceived by the suspension of broadcasting from these stations.

FSLN ATTACKS EL JICARO; GARRISON COMMANDER KILLED

PA310328 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0016 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A spokesman for the Nicaraguan Army here today denied a communique issued by the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] according to which guerrilla columns attacked a military garrison in northern Nicaragua and shot 40 members of the garrison. According to a communique issued by the illegal groups, the National Guard camp is located north of El Jicaro, 250 km north of Managua. The El Jicaro garrison was attacked by approximately 100 insurgents on Monday. The guerrillas killed the garrison commander and five other persons, including soldiers and civilians, and then fled.

Aquiles Aranda Escobar, a National Guard spokesman, has stated that the Sandinist communique published today by the daily LA PRENSA of Managua is full of fantasy. Aranda said that the troops loyal to the government have already located the guerrilla camp in that area of the republic and that soon there will be official reports on the operation that is being carried out there.

According to unofficial reports, the army is tenaciously pursuing the rebels and is using air and ground forces in an attempt to prevent the guerrillas from crossing the border into Honduras.

The Sandinist communique also notes that the rebels recovered large amounts of weapons as well as radio equipment used in the garrison which they allegedly destroyed.

Further Clashes; Residents Flee

PA011555 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1432 GMT 1 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Three guerrillas and one soldier were killed in a clash yesterday between Nicaraguan National Guard troops and members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) in the mountains of northern Nicaragua.

An official bulletin from the army's information office did not indicate the site of the clash but reported that the dead insurgents were part of the guerrilla group which attacked the El Jicaro military command on Monday. In that attack, the National Guard sustained six casualties, including the commander of the garrison. The garrison is located some 250 km north of Managua.

None of the guerrillas who were killed in the clash has been identified. The military patrol found that the dead Sandinists were armed with two FAL rifles, one 30-caliber M-1 rifle, a 22-caliber rifle and abundant ammunition. Antonio Audato Garcia is the name of the soldier who was killed in the action. The official report indicated that patrols are continuing their pursuit of the guerrillas.

Meanwhile, the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA reported yesterday that National Air Force (FAN) jets "intensely" bombed on Friday an area where an FSLN camp is believed to be located. "In view of the large military operation to patrol the vast mountainous region and yesterday's bombing, many peasants have begun to leave their poor dwellings in search of a safer place. They are taking their children and their most essential possessions, abandoning their fields, cattle, horses and poultry," the newspaper reported.

NATIONAL GUARD SPOKESMAN DENIES POSSIBILITY OF MARTIAL LAW

PA310358 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0215 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A spokesman for the Nicaraguan Army said today that "it is false" that there is any possibility of again placing Managua under martial law.

The local opposition evening newspaper LA PRENSA reported on its front page that a "confidential Somozist source" said that Managua could be declared in a state of martial law "at any moment." The local newspaper report adds that the difficult economic situation the government is facing and the state of exhaustion of the army after 15 months of struggle against the squads of the Sandinist National Liberation Front can be checked only by means of a state of emergency [estado de excepcion].

However, Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, chief of the Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard, has said to ACAN-EFE that "it is false that we are thinking about imposing martial law."

FURTHER DETAILS OF CUBAN-POLISH JOINT COMMUNIQUE

PA021912 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Cuba and Poland condemn the brutal and treacherous Chinese attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, which denotes the extreme danger of the chauvinistic, expansionist and hegemonic policy of the Beijing leaders, says a joint communique that was signed in Havana on the official, friendly visit which Piotr Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, paid to Cuba from 25 to 30 March. The two countries also condemned the Egyptian-Israeli treaty which, far from being a solution to the Mideast conflict, creates new, greater threats to peace and security in the Middle East.

The joint Cuban-Polish communique voices solidarity with the struggle for liberation of the peoples of Namibia and Zimbabwe and opposes maneuvers by Western powers and their allies to impose neocolonialist solutions in both territories. Cuba and Poland also voiced solidarity with the frontline countries which are experiencing continuous aggression from the racist regimes in southern Africa.

Both parties emphasized the growing and positive international role of the nonalined countries movement in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and other forms of oppression. They highlighted the importance of the sixth summit conference of that group of nations which will take place in Cuba next September. Cuba and Poland voiced their willingness to continue contributing to the unity and coherence of the international communist movement on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The weakening of that unity, they pointed out, merely favors imperialist interests.

The joint communique finally reports that Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, gratefully accepted Piotr Jaroszewicz' invitation to pay an official visit to Poland.

CUBA-GDR COOPERATION TALKS OPEN IN BERLIN

FL021843 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Mar 79 FL

[Text] Berlin--The Cuban-GDR intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation began its ninth plenary session today in this capital. The delegations are headed by the vice presidents of the Cuban and GDR Councils of Ministers, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Gerhard Weiss, respectively. At the opening of the meeting, which is being held at the [name indistinct] residence, where the top-level foreign guests stay, the two leaders stressed the identical objectives of their governments and parties and the fruitful increase in bilateral relations. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State, and part of the delegation accompanying him today at the end of the first round of talks traveled to (Neustad), in the southern Province of Dresden. In this region near the GDR-Czechoslovakian border, the Cuban leader will visit the [name indistinct] state complex for agricultural machinery building and the (Neugersdorf) textile industry. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez is scheduled to meet with the Cubans who are receiving technical training in the southern part of the GDR.

ECONOMIC PLANNING TALKS WITH ROMANIA OPEN IN BUCHAREST

FL021901 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Bucharest--Today in Bucharest Cuba and Romania began talks to coordinate the economic plans of the two countries for the 1981-1985 5-year period and other aspects of reciprocal interest.

The delegations are headed by Humberto Perez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Cuban Central Planning Board [JUCEPLAN], and (Nicolae Constantin), first vice chairman of the Romanian Government and chairman of the Romanian State Planning Committee.

According to the official program for the visit, the negotiations should conclude on Thursday, 5 April, with the signing of the final documents of the session. In addition the Cuban visitors will tour a truck plant in the Romanian County of Brasov located north of Bucharest, and other centers of interest. Romania and Cuba, which are members of the CEMA, established diplomatic relations in October 1960.

FIDEL CASTRO REPLIES TO LETTER FROM SYRIAN PRESIDENT

Report on Al-Asad Letter

FL021158 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, has sent a letter to Fidel to bring him up to date on the dangers involved in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the possible consequences for the situation in the Middle East so that they [Syria and Cuba] can jointly cooperate in having this problem studied at the United Nations. In one part of his message, the Syrian leader pointed to the decisive agreements taken at the nonalined countries conferences which stressed the impossibility of imposing and establishing a just peace for the area without complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and the reestablishment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Fidel Castro Reply

FL021317 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 2 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The text of the letter our commander in chief sent to Hafiz al-Asad is carried in today's GRANMA newspaper: Our people, party and government have always followed the development of events in the Middle East closely and with great concern, and the danger for peace in this area in particular and in the world in general represented by the policy carried out by North American imperialism, which uses the Zionist State of Israel as their spearhead in the region.

The signing of a separate peace treaty, as you point out in the letter sent to me, goes against all complete solutions for a just and lasting peace and allows the Israeli State to perpetuate its policy of annexation by way of the consummated events, making the situation more uncertain and dangerous. In complete opposition to the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, to the nonalined countries movement and to many other international forums, the Zionist State of Israel and its tutor, North American imperialism, have provoked a situation which day by day becomes more dangerous for the Arab peoples and for all progressive humanity. This policy, which counted on the surrender policy and the betrayal by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, completely removes any possibility for a just solution to the problem in the Middle East. The agreements signed in the name of peace reveal their hidden and true objective by including the colossal financing and supplying of very modern weaponry to Israel and Egypt.

And Fidel's letter to Hafiz al-Asad continues: What type of peace is it, that is established simultaneously with an escalation in the arms race? Against whom will the hundreds of tanks, the transportation equipment, airplanes and other modern weaponry which the United States generously supplied to the two countries be used after signing the aforementioned peace?

It is evident that this weaponry is destined to be used against the Arab States who have not backed down, against Palestinian resistance and against the progressive countries in the Arab region and Africa. This is part of the plans and objectives of imperialist policy to safeguard its interests in the area and try to continue its policy of exploitation and subjugation of peoples.

And the letter continues: With the revolutionary process in Iran, the gendarmerie which imperialism established to oppress peoples and as part of their strategic military scaffolding against the Soviet Union and the socialist countries disintegrated; this is the substitute.

In response to its principles, Cuba rejects all imperialist maneuvers, whose only objective is the maintenance of exploitation and control over the Arab peoples' wealth in detriment to their sovereignty, independence, self-determination, well-being, progress and security. Cuba energetically condemns the signing of the agreements between Egypt and Israel, which was inspired by North American imperialism, and once again reiterates that a true and just solution to the problem can only take place with Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and the recognition and exercise of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including those of self-determination, independence and sovereignty.

Fidel told Hafiz al-Asad: I wish to express to you our unrestricted support for your just struggle and at the same time demonstrate our willingness to jointly cooperate for a total and lasting peace solution with the participation of all parties including the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR 8 APRIL ELECTIONS

Test of Voting System

FL021344 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 2 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The National Electoral Commission yesterday, 1 April, tested the entire organizational and informational system for the election for next Sunday, 8 April. Blas Roca, president of the People's Government National Assembly, has stated that the test was done well and carried out with great enthusiasm, and that the only deficiencies were in mobilizing the Pioneers, and in some places where [Electoral] College presidents could not find the keys to open [the centers].

Blas said that in the test Havana Province was the first to report that it was ready, at 0700 hours, followed by Cienfuegos and Ciego de Avila.

Report on Readiness

FL030054 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The National Electoral Commission met this morning to examine various matters of interest prior to the 8 April elections. The important meeting was chaired by Blas Roca Calderio, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the National Assembly, and Armando Torres Santrayll, chairman of the National Electoral Commission and minister of justice.

Representatives of the political and mass organizations and of the organizations that will be participating in the elections also attended the meeting.

A summarized report on the results of the dynamic test held yesterday in preparation for the elections, the final results of nomination of candidates for delegates to People's Government Municipal Assemblies and issuance of voter identity cards was analyzed at the meeting. A report on material facilities to guarantee good development of the elections also was rendered at the meeting.

Regarding yesterday's dynamic test, it was reported that there are more than 300,000 new voters, primarily youngsters who have reached the age of 16. The number of electoral districts dropped nationally by 71, while the number of polling places increased by 258. Nuevitas Municipality in Camaguey Province showed the highest average number of voters per polling place with 419, while Guantanamo showed the least with 117. The first province to report on the dynamic test was Cienfuegos and the last one was Santiago de Cuba. All the information mechanisms operated well in general terms, except for certain difficulties which did not affect the quality of information work in general.

Regarding the recently concluded process to nominate candidates to the municipal assemblies, it was reported that almost 28,000 nominating assemblies were held in which almost 4.5 million voters participated. A total of 24,261 candidates were nominated, including 2,402 women. Of the total number of candidates, more than 6,300 are incumbent delegates.

It also was reported that the number of electoral districts is more than 10,650. Regarding voter identity cards, it was said that 5.896 million were issued. This means that the total issuance of cards was done within the timetable, with the exception of isolated cases that are being solved. It is necessary that every citizen, especially students and militarymen, help in the solution of any problem that may come up with his voter identity card at the regular as well as special electoral districts.

SERGIO DEL VALLE CONGRATULATES MININT COMBATANTS

FL301143 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] Div Gen Sergio del Valle, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of the interior, has sent a message to all units of the Ministry of the Interior [MININT] to express support for and hail the initiative of the naval squadron of Santiago de Cuba Frontier Guards declaring itself initiator of socialist emulation in that unit.

The message notes that the initiative follows the guidelines of our Revolutionary Armed Forces and the central organization of Cuba and urges other MININT units to respond to the challenge. The message also states that the results should include fulfillment of directives, agreements and resolutions of the first party congress, efficiency in operational, administrative and service activities and strengthening of the politico-ideological, technical and combat level of all personnel. It also urges all units to fulfill successfully all missions assigned to the MININT in connection with the sixth nonalined countries summit conference and to raise the level of savings of all types of material means and resources.

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL FORMED

FL302349 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2336 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] A ceremony for the creation of the Communications Ministry's Technical Advisory Council was held today. Creation of the council is in accordance with Article 42, Law 1323 of December 1976. Pedro Guelmes, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of communications, presided over the ceremony.

He pointed out that the council will be charged with fulfilling the high responsibility of advising the government on communications matters.

Manuel Garcia Fernandez, vice minister of communications in charge of technical development, as chairman of the Technical Advisory Council made the closing remarks at the ceremony in which the advisory council was officially created. He said that the council members are noted for knowledge in communications work and that they must tackle important problems with the seriousness and responsibility which each problem requires.

PEREZ HERRERO CLOSES ICRT MEETING

FL311951 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero this morning made the closing remarks at the annual review meeting for 1978 of the Cuban Radio and Television Institute [ICRT].

Referring to the most important matters examined at the meeting, Perez Herrero first discussed the holding of the meeting itself which made it possible for ICRT workers and executives to have an enthusiastic and profitable exchange of viewpoints. This, he said, allowed a greater understanding and examination of the problems that were raised.

He also stressed the achievements of 1978 which must be enhanced and analyzed in order to achieve greater effectiveness in the next [work] plans. Perez Herrero discussed the attention that must be given to the people's desires in ICRT's informative, artistic and technical programming.

One of the most important matters emphasized by Antonio Perez Herrero at the closing session of the ICRT review meeting for 1978 was the fruitful work of radio and television in implementing management methods. The PCC Central Committee Secretariat also referred to the establishment of relations between the ICRT and other similar organizations, primarily those of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist camp.

For his part, ICRT Vice President Antonio Molto said the work of the various committees at the just-concluded meeting had been thorough.

Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers; Jacinto Viamontes, secretary general of the National Cultural Workers Trade Union; and ICRT officials, among others, attended the meeting.

FLAVIO BRAVO CLOSES TOURISM REVIEW MEETING

FL021759 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 79 FL

[Excerpt] In closing the assembly meeting reviewing the work done by the National Tourism Institute [INTUR] Flavio Bravo, member of the Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers, has stated that tourism in Cuba, which is tourism without drugs and vices that includes the good treatment of the tourist, dignifies the country. He congratulated the effort made by INTUR, the workers and enterprises, and the achievements made in 1978; and he called on all to every day improve so that the quality and service in the sector can be improved.

HART ATTENDS CEREMONY AT PUBLISHING HOUSE

FL301107 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member and Culture Minister Armando Hart has attended a ceremony at the Pueblo y Educacion publishing house in this capital to mark the 20th anniversary of the book industry in the revolution. This publishing house was selected as an outstanding center and candidate for participation in the 11th festival emulation.

Blanca Rosa Duarte, secretary general of the union local, stated that the center's workers had produced 71 million textbooks for the school system from 1975 to 1979. She pointed out that in the past 5 years the workers have produced more than 18 million books annually, which is a cause for great joy and pride.

Armando Hart made the closing remarks. He conveyed greetings to the center's workers for having won the designation of outstanding center at the national level, and all workers in the book industry for the 20th anniversary celebration.

70 FOREIGN DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND MAY DAY CELEBRATION

FL302106 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2032 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] Seventy delegations from 40 countries and trade unions will participate in the 1 May activities in our country. Jesus A. Escandel, member of the Executive Secretariat of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC], made the announcement at a news conference held at the (Plaza Hall) of that labor organization.

He also announced that the delegations to the trade union conference of Latin American and Caribbean sugar industry workers that will be held at the CTC from 28 to 30 April will participate in the 1 May festivities. This conference, Escandel explained, is sponsored by the CTC, the sugar industry, agricultural and livestock workers trade unions and the National Association of Small Farmers, with broad support from the trade unions of the participating countries.

CTC Executive Secretariat member Jesus A. Escandel said at the news conference that the delegations to the 1 May activities will be involved in a broad schedule of visits to workplaces in Havana City.

Escandel told the journalists that an artistic-cultural activity will be held on 30 April in anticipation of 1 May at the CTC's Lazaro Pena Auditorium. He explained that in addition to the international parade on the day of the proletariat, there will be a meeting on 2 May in solidarity with Vietnam and other countries that are struggling for their liberation. The meeting will be held at a Havana industrial center.

Lastly, the member of the CTC Executive Secretariat announced that 20 delegations of the Cuban labor movement will attend 1 May celebrations in other countries.

VISIT BY COSTA RICAN VICE PRESIDENT ALTMANN ORTIZ

Visit Schedule

FL311322 Santo Domingo Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Text] Costa Rican Vice President Rodrigo Altmann Ortiz is scheduled to arrive in this country at 1330 today. The Costa Rican vice president will be received at Las Americas Airport by Vice President Jacobo Majluta, Foreign Secretary Vice Adm Ramon Emilio Jimenez, Costa Rican Ambassador to this country (Dr Virgilio Echeverry Ubalde) and other officials. Vice President Altmann Ortiz will leave this country Tuesday at 0900.

Altmann on OAS, Nicaragua

PA021453 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo--Costa Rican Vice President Rodrigo Altmann Ortiz affirmed here yesterday that the Costa Rican people are satisfied with the results of the investigation conducted by the OAS regarding the conflict with Nicaragua. Altmann Ortiz (?added) that the Costa Rican authorities had executed "Operation Checkmate" for the purpose of clearing the Nicaraguan border of subversive elements. He assured that for the moment a threat of aggression by the Nicaraguan Government does not exist.

Meeting With President Guzman

FL022238 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 2 Apr 79 FL

[Text] About noon today the president of the republic received Costa Rican Vice President Rodrigo Altmann Ortiz, who arrived at the palace of government accompanied by (Lic Bernardo Vega) and Costa Rican Insurance Institute Director (German Fernandez). The Costa Rican vice president came to this country to see an exhibit of archeological objects at the Museum of Dominican (Man). The exhibit opens at 2000 tonight. Altmann Ortiz was taken to the office of President of the Republic Antonio Guzman Fernandez by Chief of Protocol Dr Alvaro Longrono Baez.

LABOR LEADERS SUBMIT DEMANDS TO PRESIDENT GUZMAN

PA291611 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0334 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 28 Mar (EFE)--Leaders of the General Workers Central (CGT) today delivered to President Antonio Guzman a document containing the demands of Dominican workers. At the end of the meeting with the president, CGT Secretary General Francisco Antonio de los Santos expressed satisfaction over the positive attitude the president had shown during the meeting. The demands made by the CGT include the drafting of a law to give full guarantees for the exercise of union freedom in the country. It also asked the president for worker participation in the Dominican Social Security Institute, the Workers Bank and in the Dominican delegation to the International Labor Organization (ILO). The CGT also asked for a wage readjustment, since the workers cannot absorb the increase in the cost of living with current wages. Santos said that President Guzman considered the CGT's demands just and had assured them of his interest in adopting rapid measures to guarantee union freedom.